

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 29th October 1887.

CONTENTS:

Page.

Page.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

English school-boys in Pondicherry	...	1043
Troubles in Afghanistan	...	ib.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police—

The Superintendent of Police, Furreedpore	...	ib.
Gambling	...	ib.
Theft and dacoity in the sub-division of Jhenidah, in the district of Jessore	...	ib.

(b)—Working of the Courts—

The Civil Court Amlah	...	1044
Baboo Jagat Chunder Shom, Deputy Magistrate	...	ib.
Transfer of Court Amlah	...	ib.
Law Courts in British India	...	ib.

(c)—Jails—

The Indian Jails	...	ib.
------------------	-----	-----

(d)—Education—

Instruction in mechanical engineering	...	ib.
Baboo Dinonath Sen, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Dacca	...	1045
The Rajshahye College	...	ib.
A Middle English School at Mathurapore	...	ib.
Mr. Larpent, the late Registrar of the Punjab University	...	ib.
The upper primary pathshala at Rahamutpore in Rungpore	...	ib.
Education in the village of Kabarikola, in the district of Pubna	...	ib.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—

Cremation within the Bombay Municipality	...	ib.
Lord Dufferin and Local Self-Government	...	ib.
The Magistrates and Local Self-Government	...	ib.
Fever at Berhampore	...	1046
The square field at Berhampore	...	ib.
Prevalence of fever in Murshedabad	...	ib.
Medical aid by municipalities	...	1047
Ferry irregularities in Burdwan	...	ib.
Local Self-Government and Village Unions	...	ib.
Cremation in Bombay	...	ib.
The proposed night-soil tax at Bhatpara within the Naihati Municipality	...	ib.

(f)—Questions affecting the land—

The Uriya peasantry	...	1048
---------------------	-----	------

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—

Indian railways	...	1048
Railway accidents	...	ib.
The Midnapore Canal	...	ib.
Roads in Arjanpore and Bhowanipore in Moorshedabad	...	1049
The road from Krishnagore to Berhampore	...	ib.
The Assam-Bengal Railway	...	ib.
Bengal State Railways	...	1050
Village roads and the road cess	...	ib.

(h)—General—

The last Administration Report of the Rajshahye Division	...	1051
A dispensary at Tanore	...	ib.
The Indian budget in India and in Parliament	...	ib.
Indigo-planters in Behar	...	1052
Drunkenness in Burmah	...	ib.
Postage on newspapers	...	ib.
Clerks in Government offices	...	1053
The loss of the <i>Sir John Lawrence</i>	...	ib.
The Indian budget in Parliament	...	ib.
The Post Office at Baidyapore	...	ib.
The Sub-Deputy Collector's office at Debhog in the Doro Khas Mehal	...	ib.
Natives as Judges and Magistrates	...	1054
The dilatory management of public business by English officials	...	ib.
The Lieutenant-Governor and the grievances of the people	...	ib.
Travelling expenses of Governors and Lieutenant-Governors	...	ib.
Morality of Government officers	...	ib.
Outstills in the sub-division of Uluberiah	...	1055
The Indian budget in Parliament	...	ib.
Troubles in Burmah	...	ib.
The Indian budget in Parliament	...	1056
Sir Charles Turner on the appointment of natives in the public service	...	ib.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

Nil.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

The Nizam's donation	...	1057
The Nizam's money	...	ib.
The Maharajah Holkar and his mother	...	ib.
The Nizam's donation	...	ib.
The Nizam's donation	...	ib.
Sir Salar Jung and the English in Hyderabad	...	1058

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Scarcity of water for the purposes of irrigation at Dalui Bazar ... 1058

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

An address to the goddess Durga ... *ib.*
 Professor Max Müller and an asylum for Hindu widows ... *ib.*
 The late Wajid Ali Shah and Diba Singh ... *ib.*
 The slaughter of cows and she-buffaloes ... 1059
 The unemployed in England ... *ib.*
 The coming National Congress ... *ib.*

Clerks in Government offices ...
 Oppression of passengers on board steamers ... 1059
 Scarcity of water in the village of Kabarikola, in the district of Pubna ... 1060
 The slaughter of cows and she-buffaloes ... *ib.*
 The marriage question ... *ib.*
 The Manager of the Nuddea Raj Estate ... *ib.*
 The demonstrations of the unemployed in England ... 1061
 The late Nawab Wajid Ali Shah ... *ib.*
 The loss of the *Sir John Lawrence* ... *ib.*
 Another victory of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* ... *ib.*
 Mr. Grierson and the Bengalis in Behar ... 1062

URIYA PAPERS.

Nil.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar	.....
2	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
3	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....
4	"Kasipore Nibási"	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
5	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
6	"Púrva Bangabási"	Noakhally	.....
7	"Púrva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
8	"Silchar"	Silchar, Assam	.....
9	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
10	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	
11	"Arya Pratibhá"	Halishahar	.....
12	"Bangabási"	Calcutta	20,000	22nd October 1887.
13	"Bháratbási"	Ditto	3,000	
14	"Burdwán Sanjívani"	Burdwan	302	
15	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	
16	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	450	23rd ditto.
17	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore	.....	14th ditto.
18	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	21st ditto.
19	"Garib and Mahavidya"	Dacca	.....
20	"Grambási"	Uluberia	.....
21	"Hindu Kanjika"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	19th ditto.
22	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore	508	
23	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....	21st ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
Weekly—concluded.				
24	"Nava Mediní"	Midnapore	.....	24th October 1887.
25	"Navavibhakar Sádharaní"	Calcutta	1,000	
26	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	450	21st ditto.
27	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	995	
28	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	300	21st ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore	205	19th ditto.
30	"Sahacha"	Calcutta	500	
31	"Samava"	Ditto	2,350	21st ditto.
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	22nd ditto.
33	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	24th ditto.
34	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca	400	
35	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta	1,000	21st ditto.
36	"Srimanta Saudagár"	Ditto	.....
37	"Sulabha Samáchar and Kusadaha"	Ditto	3,000	21st ditto.
38	"Surabhi and Patáká"	Ditto	700	
Daily.				
39	"Dainik and Samachár Chandriká"	Calcutta	7,000	23rd, 24th, 25th, and 27th October 1887.
40	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	200	
41	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	
42	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
43	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
44	"Kshatriya Pratiká"	Patna	.....
Weekly.				
45	"Aryávarta"	Calcutta	.....	18th October 1887.
46	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....	20th ditto.
47	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	
48	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	17th ditto.
49	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	4,500	
50	"Hindi Samáchar"	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
Weekly.				
51	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta	250	
URDU.				
Weekly.				
52	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah	.....
53	"Anis"	Patna	.....
54	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	196	
55	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar	150	
56	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....
Bi-weekly.				
57	"Akhbar-i-darusaitanat"	Calcutta	340	
Daily.				
58	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	212	21st ditto.
ORIYA.				
Monthly.				
59	"Taraka and Subhavártá"	Cuttack	.....
60	"Pradip"	Ditto	.....
Weekly.				
61	"Utkal Díriká"	Cuttack	200	
62	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Balasore	205	
63	"Sanskarak"	Cuttack	200	
64	"Navasamvád"	Ditto	.....

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Sahachar*, of the 19th October, considers the diatribes now being indited in Anglo-Indian newspapers against the French on account of the Governor of Pondicherry having abolished the local English school and refused scholarships to two English boys studying there as being in the highest degree unreasonable and indefensible. When Englishmen do not give aid to schools teaching French or Russian, how do they expect the French Government to give aid to schools teaching English? And when Englishmen do not award scholarships to Bengali boys studying in the schools of Behar, is it right on their part to blame or condemn the French Government for not granting scholarships to English boys reading in a French school? The effrontery of these Anglo-Indian editors has really become intolerable.

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 19th, 1887.

2. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 24th October, does not think that it is probable that Ayub Khan has made his appearance in Afghanistan without assurances of support from the Afghan people. But supposing he has not received any such assurances, still it is not at all to be doubted that he is well able to create disturbances in Afghanistan. Now the question is, what policy should the English adopt in case the Amir Abdur Rahman ceases to be the ruler of Afghanistan in consequence of such disturbances? The best policy for the English will be to revert to the Afghan policy of Lord Lawrence. The English have not bound themselves to take any side in any civil war in Afghanistan; nor is it politic for one nation to interfere in the civil dissensions of another. Let the English Government declare, in the case of Afghanistan, just as it has declared in the case of Holland, that it will only oppose the external enemies of that country, but will take no side in any internal dissension that may take place within it. If such a declaration is made, Ayub Khan will not entertain hostile feelings towards the English if he becomes the Amir of Afghanistan. A united and independent Afghanistan will be an impregnable barrier between Russia and India. There was such an Afghanistan at the time of Shere Ali. Lord Lytton foolishly destroyed that united Afghanistan. Abdur Rahman has failed to unite Afghanistan; so the English will be gainers if Ayub Khan succeeds in doing so.

*NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI*,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Samaya*, of the 21st October, says that, if the scandalous charges which have appeared in the *Bengalee* newspaper against the young Superintendent of Police, Furreedpore, be true, then the young man ought to be made to return to his own country. Will Sir Steuart Bayley approve the conduct of such a Superintendent of Police?

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

4. The *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, in commenting on a correspondent's letter giving an account of gambling as practised in the North-Western Provinces during the Dewali festival, observes that, notwithstanding the existence of a law prohibiting gambling, the negligence of the police in enforcing it has kept the practice in full force. The Lieutenant-Governor's attention is therefore drawn to the matter. It is rumoured that there are many gambling houses even in Calcutta.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

5. The *Som Prakash*, of the 24th October, says that theft and dacoity are rife in the sub-division of Jhenidah, in the district of Jessore. This is owing to the negligence of the police. Government should look to the matter.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

6. The *Bangabasi*, of the 22nd October, says that the circular issued by the Government of Bengal to District Judges, requesting information as to the necessity of transferring the Court amlah, has been misunderstood by some of the Judges, who intend to recommend a wholesale transfer of their amlah. But to do so would be to subject the poor amlah to great hardship. The majority of these court amlahs are poor and ill-paid, and transfer will be a punishment to them. It is hoped that the Government will act with due care and consideration. Should the requirements of the public service necessitate their transfer, the Government should see that no case of hardship occurs.

BANGABASI.

7. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the high-handed proceedings of Baboo Jagat Chandra Shom, Deputy Magistrate of Jessore, who has been recently transferred with disgrace from Cutwa. It is alleged that he illtreats and uses insulting language to muktears, to the court amlah, to suitors, and even to witnesses. The muktears have combined and resolved not to attend his court. It is stated that on the 13th October the Deputy Magistrate got angry against one Kalachand Gazi, and threatened him in such a way when he was giving evidence, that the poor man fell senseless upon the ground. Attempts were made to restore consciousness, but in vain. The man is still in a delirious state.

Baboo Jagat Chandra Shom, Deputy Magistrate.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

8. The *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, will be glad to see the corrupt amlah of the courts of District Judges in Bengal transferred elsewhere in pursuance of the circular issued by Mr. Phillips, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal. But in preparing the list called for from them, the Judges should select the corrupt officials only; for if the honest also are transferred, they will from sheer necessity take to questionable practices.

Transfer of Court amlah.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

9. The *Som Prakash*, of the 24th October, says that the old village punchayets of the country constituted a far better machinery for the redress of wrongs than the present British Courts of Justice, which afford no remedy to the poor against their oppression by the rich. The cost of litigation in these courts is ruinous, and English law is so complex that to obtain justice in the Indian courts of law one cannot help using very unfair means. Besides spending large sums of money, one has also to get up an array of false witnesses in order to win a case in an Indian Court, and so poor people, who cannot afford to spend large sums of money, are compelled to put up with oppression in consequence. It is not easy to see what purpose such courts serve in the matter of the administration of justice.

Law Courts in British India.

PRATIKAR,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

10. The *Pratihar*, of the 21st October, praises Lord Dufferin for the wise and humane instructions he has issued in regard to the treatment of prisoners in the jails. Sir Steuart Bayley is also praised because reforms are beginning to be made in the different departments of the administration under him. Praise is always due to the just and to the deserving.

The Indian Jails.

(c)—*Jails.*

ARYAVARTA,
Oct. 16th, 1887.

11. The *Aryavarta*, of the 18th October, says that the English Government will appear in a truly generous light only when it will teach Indians such improved mechanical engineering as is in vogue in

Instruction in mechanical engineering.

(d)—*Education.*

England. It is hoped that Lord Dufferin will immortalise himself by making arrangements for such teaching before his departure from this country.

12. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th October, is glad that Baboo Dinonath Sen, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Dacca, will officiate for Mr. Bellett, who is gone on leave.

SACHAR.
Oct. 19th, 1887.

Baboo Dinonath Sen, Assistant Inspector, of Schools, Dacca.

13. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 19th October, complains of very frequent changes of Professors in the Rajshahye College. Such change of Professors cannot but be prejudicial to the interests of the students, especially when the University Examinations are so near. The Director of Public Instruction pays no heed to the requirements of the College. The Educational Department seems bent upon ruining the College.

HINDU RANJIKA,
Oct. 19th, 1887.

The Rajshahye College.

14. A correspondent of the *Education Gazette*, of the 21st October, asks the Educational authorities to grant some pecuniary aid to the Middle English School recently established at Mathurapore, a village in the 24-Pergunnahs. The villagers are too poor to be able to raise all the money required for the school.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

A Middle English School at Mathurapore.

15. The *Samaya*, of the 21st October, cannot approve of the order passed by the Government of India calling upon the Government of the Punjab to try the case of Mr. Larpent, the late Registrar of the Punjab University, under the provisions of Act XXXVIII of 1850, should the Act in question apply to his case. Mr. Larpent should be tried in a public court in order to prevent his trial from becoming as scandalous as that of Mr. Wilson of Cambay.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

Mr. Larpent, the late Registrar of the Punjab University.

16. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 22nd October, says that an upper primary pathsala has been established at Rahamutpore for over two years. The Sub-Inspector of Schools has been repeatedly requested to examine the pathsala, but to no effect. The cause of education suffers from the apathy of the educational officers.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

The upper primary pathsala at Rahamutpore in Rungpore.

17. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, complains of the abolition of a middle vernacular school at Kabarikola, a village in the district of Pubna. It is not easy to see that the authorities have been able to make any extraordinary saving by abolishing this school. The only effect of the abolition has been to make the boys of the village grow up in ignorance.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

Education in the village of Kabarikola, in the district of Pubna.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

18. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th October, says that the municipality of Bombay should think twice before they force the Hindu community there to burn their dead in the machine which they propose to provide for the purpose. They should know that reforms cannot be effected by force.

SACHAR,
Oct. 19th, 1887.

Cremation within the Bombay Municipality.

19. The same paper invokes the blessings of Heaven on His Excellency Lord Dufferin for the interest which he is evincing in municipal affairs by directing all Indian municipalities to furnish his Government with full reports on the municipal elections in 1886-87.

SACHAR.

Lord Dufferin and Local Self-Government.

20. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 19th October, quotes the following words of Sir Stuart Bayley:—"I should expect a good district officer to be as proud of the success of his local bodies as of his own

HINDU RANJIKA,
Oct. 19th, 1887.

The Magistrates and Local Self-Government.

local administration, to make his influence felt by leading them and not by driving;" and expresses great regret that most District Magistrates do not act in the way Sir Stuart considers to be right in relation to the District and Local Boards. The object of Local Self-Government is to divest the Magistrates of certain powers and to relieve them of certain onerous duties, and at the same time to train the natives in the art of managing their own affairs. But the manner in which the Magistrates are dealing by the Self-Government Boards is extremely likely to defeat that object. The Magistrates are very jealous of their powers, and they do not wish to part with any of them. They do not like that any one but themselves should perform any important work, or that any one should work independently of themselves. Thus the noble object of Local Self-Government is being frustrated. The Maldah District Board was constituted in April last. Besides the Magistrate, who is also the Chairman, there are 12 members of this Board, three of whom are Europeans and the rest natives. Of the nine native members, six are Government officers, and the remaining three are residents of Maldah; but the people of Maldah can expect no benefit from the Board as it is at present constituted. There has been no meeting of the Board within the last six months. A resolution was passed at the first meeting, to the effect that the Engineer was an incompetent officer, and that the accountant had become superannuated, and they have been accordingly called upon to show cause why they should not be removed; and this was the only business transacted at the first meeting of the Board. The budget was not discussed, and it has not yet been passed. The fact is that the District Magistrate does everything in the name of the District Board. Under these circumstances, the people of Maldah will derive no benefit from the introduction of the system of Local Self-Government in their district.

'PRATIKAR,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

21. The *Pratikar*, of the 21st October, complains of the prevalence of fever within the Berhampore Municipality.

Fever at Berhampore.

The sluice-gate of the neighbouring *beel* should be opened at night in order to allow all foul water to run out, and the drains within the municipal limits should be kept clean. The mustard oil sold in the shops and bazars is prepared from the worst stuff and contains unwholesome adulterations. The Municipal authorities should look to these things in the interest of the rate-payers.

PRATIKAR.

22. The same paper says that the present Municipal regulations admit natives into the square field at Berhampore, but the European residents of the place

The square field at Berhampore.

do not like this. At the request of the European residents, the Divisional Commissioner has addressed a letter to the Chairman of the Municipality prohibiting the admission of natives into the square field. The Commissioner should not show his partiality towards his own countrymen in this way.

MURSHEDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
Oct 21st, 1887.

23. The *Murshedabad Pratinidhi*, of the 21st October, complains of the prevalence of fever in the Murshedabad Municipality. The main streets of Khagra, Berhampore, Lalbag, &c., are kept clean by

Prevalence of fever in Murshedabad.

the municipality, but the parts approached by lanes and bye-lanes are extremely filthy. In many places ponds and excavations are found full of foul and stagnant water with leaves, grass and other vegetable matter decaying therein, and sending forth most offensive smells. Public health is suffering from these causes. Some time ago notices were served on the owners of the ponds calling upon them to fill them up, but nothing has been done. The lives of the residents of Acharyapara and Katmapara will be endangered if the foul pond at Osmankhali be not de-watered. The municipality should be up and doing.

24. The *Bangabasi*, of the 22nd October, says that the Government of

Medical aid by municipalities.

India has desired all municipalities to found scholarships for the encouragement of medical

students. The object in view seems to be the creation of a wider field for the employment of female doctors and trained midwives and sick nurses, and to offer an impetus to the movement inaugurated by Lady Dufferin and Lady Roberts for the supply of medical aid to Indian women. There can be no objection to preparing a class of female doctors and midwives and nurses, but when their services can be easily secured by the payment of fees, it would be an unnecessary waste of the poor rate-payers' money to make municipalities pay for their education and training. If the municipalities had no other wants to supply, the experiment could have been tried; but the fact is that municipalities have more wants than they can supply. Under the circumstances, the proposal of the Supreme Government is most unwise.

25 A correspondent of the same paper complains of defective ferry arrangements at Sadarghat and Katgolaghat on the Damodur river near Burdwan. It is

Ferry irregularities in Burdwan.

suggested (1) that the number of boats should be increased, (2) that there should be separate boats for cargo and for passengers, (3) that ferrymen should be compelled to strictly observe the regulations about ferrying cargo and passengers in separate boats. The income derived from these two ferry ghâts is very large, and the comfort and convenience of the public should therefore be first consulted. The authorities are requested to attend to the matter.

26. The *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, says that the Lieutenant-Governor, who has everywhere, during his tour, expressed himself satisfied with the experiment of Local Self-Government in

Local Self-Government and Village Unions.

Bengal, will no doubt be glad to extend the provisions of the Local Self-Government Act to all parts of the country, and will not allow them to be confined, as at present, to only 17 or 18 districts. Again, it is necessary, in order that the full benefit of the measure may be realized, that village unions should be established all over the country for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the Local Boards. Local Boards without Village Unions will prove a failure, even as the Road Cess Committees of old in the district and sub-divisional head-quarters proved a failure.

27. The *Dainik and Samâchâr Chandrikâ*, of the 23rd October, considers the Hindu community of Bombay to be justified in protesting against the proposal

Cremation in Bombay.

for burning their dead in a machine invented for the purpose. The Governor of Bombay ought to act with great caution in this matter. For, in the first place, the Mahrattas are not a timid, forbearing people like the Bengalis; and in the second, their protest is perfectly reasonable, because the cremation ceremony among Hindus is of the nature of a religious observance. Forcible measures in this direction may bring about a political crisis.

28. The *Navavibhâkar Sâdhârani* of the 24th October, says that it has been found upon enquiry that there are more than 250 privies at Bhatpara, of which about 150 are well-privies. It is the accumu-

The proposed night-soil tax at Bhatpara within the Naihati Municipality.

lation of night-soil in these privies that gives rise to the serious epidemics by which Bhatpara is from time to time visited; so, if the number of privies at Bhatpara goes on increasing at the present rate, and if arrangements are not made for properly cleaning them and for removing the night-soil to some distant place and depositing it there, it is not unlikely that it will soon share the fate of villages like Ula. The zemindars of Bhatpara and

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

BANGABASI.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 23rd, 1887.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

the owners of well-privies have, from interested motives, got up an opposition to the proposed night-soil tax. It may be admitted that some hardship may be caused to the poor by the imposition of a night-soil tax; but the Naihati Municipality can minimise their hardship by constructing a few municipal privies with municipal money in the quarters which are inhabited by that class of people.

(r)—*Questions affecting the land.*

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

29. The *Som Prakash*, of the 24th October, complains of the impoverishment of the Uriya peasantry under British rule. A high rate of assessment prevails in the Government estates which formerly formed part of the kingdom of the Rajah of Pooree. Now, this rate is higher than what prevails in the estates of Uriya Chiefs and in British Orissa. The new Tenancy Act has not yet come into force in Orissa, and Act X of 1859 still obtains there. This Act, though it is admitted to be oppressive in its tendency, has been retained simply because Orissa is a non-regulation province. Will this state of things last for ever? The impoverishing effect of the law in question is such that in the jungles of Orissa, there are people who do not even possess such common household articles as a water jug and *thali*.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

SAHACHAR
Oct. 19th, 1887.

30. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th October, says that the aggregate income of all the State Railways in India has decreased by Rs. 17,69,640 during the period from 1st April to 10th September, whereas the aggregate income of all the private guaranteed railways increased, during the same period, by Rs. 2,40,167. This proves the wisdom and necessity of all Indian Railways being worked by English capitalists at their own risk and without Government guarantee.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

31. The *Samaya*, of the 21st October, says that railway accidents have of late become very common in this country, and that Government should therefore look to the matter.

SANJIVANI.
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

32. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, says that in Midnapore the ryots having refused to enter into contracts with Government for the use of the water of the Midnapore Canal, the officers of Government have had recourse to various measures of coercion. The refusal of the ryots is based on the following grounds:—

1. Oppression by the officers of Government who often have recourse to Act VII of 1868 for the realization of the water-rates.
2. Gradual loss of fertility observed in the fields irrigated with canal water.
3. Irregularity in the supply of canal water, which, though wanting in times of need, often inundates the crops when the ryots do not require canal water in their fields.

The canal officers know that Government will lose from 30 to 35 thousand rupees if the ryots do not use the canal water. They are, therefore, trying every means to compel the ryots to sign contracts with Government. The charge of stealing the canal water has been brought against the ryots of the villages Paschimadangra, Kherai, Ujan, Santai, Belun, &c.; and as the number of hired witnesses ready to support the case of Government is very large, the ryots have been compelled to enter into five years' contracts with Government. These charges of stealing canal water are very easy to bring, considering that under the law, even the

man into whose field the canal water finds its way of itself is liable to pay a fine amounting to five times the regular canal rate. As the officers of Government are backed by false witnesses, many innocent ryots have to suffer the penalty of the law.

33. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 22nd October, complains that the roads in Arjanpore and Bhowanipore, villages in the Murshedabad district, are out of repair. The members of the Road Cess Committee pay no attention to the repair of these roads. The people are required to pay the road cess regularly, but they have to wade through mud and water. The authorities should attend to the matter.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

34. Another correspondent of the same paper complains that the road, running from Krishnagore to Berhampore, is out of repair. The greater portion of this important road remains under water, and people have to wade through mud. The portion of the road, situated near Dhublia, has given way, and has become impassable for travellers and traffic. This part of the road remains in this condition all the year round. The ticcadars are requested to construct a bridge over the *beel* at Hansdanga and to repair the road thoroughly.

BANGABASI.

35. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 23rd October, reviews the proposals made regarding the construction of a railway from Chittagong to the district of Dibrugar in Assam. According to the Chief Commissioner of Assam there should be two separate lines—one from Chittagong to Silchar and another from Makum to Fakirgong through Golaghat, Dimapur and Lamding and Gauhati, and the proposal for constructing a line between Lamding and Badarpur should be abandoned as useless.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Oct. 23rd, 1887.

The Assam-Bengal Railway. The Railway Secretary, on the other hand, has advised the adoption of a different route. According to him, the proposed line should traverse the country situated between the bank of the river Surma and the villages of Dimapur and Golaghat; but the two proposals are not really inconsistent. What the Chief Commissioner objects to is the construction of a line from Badarpur to Lamding, and the only part of his scheme which is liable to objection is the extension of the Gauhati line to Fakirgong. As the latter line will traverse the country along the bank of the Brahmaputra, there is no chance of its being worked at a profit, for steamer service will do better there.

The Chief Commissioner has committed a mistake in taking the steamer fare from Chandpur to Goalundo to be one rupee instead of 10 annas, as is really the case. It is not known whether the rejection of his scheme by the Railway Secretary is based on this mistake.

On the other hand, the Chief Commissioner is perfectly justified in advising the abandonment of the proposed line from Badarpur to Lamding. The tract of country which this line will traverse is hilly, and no line passing through it will have any chance of yielding much profit. Besides, the construction of the line will require a capital of 202 lakhs, the annual interest on which will amount to Rs. 7,07,000. Besides this the annual establishment expenditure of the line will not be less than three lakhs. Thus the annual expenditure necessary to keep the line in working order will amount to 10 lakhs. In order to meet this expenditure, goods worth 70 lakhs of maunds will have to be carried on the line yearly. But the traffic of Assam, notwithstanding the impetus it has received of late, amounted to only 28,84,433 maunds last year.

A railway from Chittagong to Silchar, as proposed by the Chief Commissioner, is certainly desirable. But this line, in order that it may yield any profit, should be joined with the Dacca and Goalundo line.

The programme advocated by this paper is this :—

The line from Chittagong to Silchar should take the route chalked out for it. From the Sahaji station on this route, let a branch line be constructed to join the Tetulia station on the Dacca line. This line will be about 56 miles long. Let another line be constructed from Dacca to either Goalundo or Aricha. This line will be about 44 miles long. The two lines taken together will be 100 miles long; and taking the cost of construction to be Rs. 75,000 per mile, they will cost one crore of rupees, including the cost of constructing a bridge over the Dhulesvari, which may be estimated at 25 lakhs.

Deducting from this amount 27 lakhs, the estimated cost of the construction of the Chandpore Branch, the above scheme will cost 73 lakhs more.

To be able to pay the expenses of the working of this line, it must have an yearly goods traffic amounting to 40 lakhs of maunds. But it may be confidently asserted that the traffic of the line will amount to more than a crore maunds.

If the object in constructing the new line be to facilitate the transaction of public business, let the Dacca-Goalundo line be taken up first.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

36. The *Som Prakash*, of the 24th October, says that mismanagement in the working of the Bengal State Railways is chiefly due to the frequent transfer of

officers. The Eastern Bengal Railway, for instance, came into the hands of Government in 1884. And during the period of three years that it has been under Government management, it has seen no less than four Managers. So long as it was in the hands of the Company it had only one Agent in the person of Mr. Prestage. But it is not only the Manager that has changed, other officers have also been allowed to leave the line on leave, furlough, &c. At this very moment, the Manager, the Traffic Superintendent, the Superintendent of Works, and the District Traffic Superintendent of Goalundo are on furlough. Why are long furloughs granted simultaneously to four or five highly placed officers? Is not the efficient administration of the line impaired by so doing? And the injustice of the thing will be clearly seen when it is considered that the Bengali clerks of the line are not allowed to take leave simultaneously even during the Durga Puja festival. That the line is not worked at a profit, and that its affairs are always in a state of confusion, are all owing to this cause.

SOM PRAKASH.

37. A correspondent of the same paper says that, though the road cess has been collected for the last twelve years or so, the condition of the roads throughout the villages of Bengal is as bad as ever. Instead of being spent on the construction of village roads, the road cess revenue is being devoted to the repairs of the chief district roads. And those roads which were formerly constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department are now, with one or two exceptions, constructed and maintained with the road cess money. It is therefore clear that in imposing the road cess, Government had the curtailment of the expenditure of the Public Works Department chiefly in view, and that the improvement of village roads with the road cess money was a vain assurance, not intended to be carried into effect. But the time has come for the Government to declare vain assurances to be vain assurances, and to state clearly and frankly that, as the road cess revenue is absorbed in keeping clean the localities surrounding the residences of Euro.

Village roads and the road cess.

peans and Baboos, and in constructing good roads thereabouts, the people must contribute more money for the construction and improvement of village roads.

(h)—General.

38. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 19th October, in reviewing the last Administration Report of the Rajshahye

HINDU RANJIKA,
Oct. 19th, 1887.

The last Administration Report of the Rajshahye Division.

Division, contradicts the statement therein made that the material prosperity of the people of Rajshahye has increased. It is stated, as one illustration of the correctness of that statement, that a large number of labourers come every year to the several districts of this division, and that they are employed in the cornfields, in the construction of roads, and in the excavation of tanks. And thus, it is argued, the condition of the people is prosperous, because these labourers would otherwise have left the division for want of employment within it. But this is an erroneous conclusion. It is well known that the people of the Rajshahye Division do not seek employment in other divisions even when there is famine amongst them. They are very timid and patient. They will rather die than go to other districts for employment when afflicted with famine or scarcity. Thus, the fact of their not going out of their own district does not mean that they are in a prosperous condition. And the fact that labourers from other districts get employment in the Rajshahye Division does not prove that the prosperity of the people of Rajshahye has increased. The cultivators of this division do not employ labourers, on fixed wages. If they had been able to pay for the services of labourers that would have justified the statement that their prosperity had increased. But the fact is that the condition of the cultivators remains unchanged. In good years, they live well enough; in bad years they suffer and die. It is alleged that coolies are recruited by illegal means for the tea-gardens of Julpigoree. The Lieutenant-Governor ought to enquire into the matter.

39. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the want of a dispensary at Tanore. Tanore was formerly

HINDU RANJIKA.

A dispensary at Tanore.

a place of considerable importance, but it is now in a miserable condition. There are no doctors or native physicians there, and the inhabitants are perfectly helpless when sickness makes its appearance among them. Government ought to establish a charitable dispensary at the place.

40. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th October, says that the budget is not allowed to be discussed in the Legislative Councils of India, probably from the fear that

SAHACHAR,
Oct. 19th, 1887.

The Indian budget in India and in Parliament.

such discussion may open the eyes of the people to the way in which their money is wasted by the Government, and may thus produce discontent among them. But the result of not discussing the budget has been the very opposite of what was anticipated. The people now distrust the financial administration of the country all the more because they are not allowed to discuss the budget or to see how their money is spent. With the diffusion of education, the feeling is also growing strong in the country that the financial policy of the Government ought to be clearly explained to the people. If the popular discontent on this score is therefore to be allayed, the budget should be allowed to be discussed in all the Legislative Councils in India. A public discussion of the budget will not have the effect of transferring the financial administration from the hands of Government to those of the people. The financial administration will remain, as now, in the hands of Government, but all that popular dissatisfaction which exists in connection with it will disappear. It has also become necessary that the people should be more and more enlightened about the acts and proceedings of Government, and that Government should

gradually prepare itself to introduce the elective system into the Legislative Councils at some future time. There is now no gainsaying that every privilege Englishmen themselves enjoy in their own country will have to be conceded in the course of time to all their dependencies. England is gradually conferring the boon of self-government on all her possessions, and it is simply impossible that India will be for ever denied of that boon. The time has come for giving a popular character to, and increasing the scope of, the Indian Legislative Council. As for the discussion of budget in Parliament, that is little more than a farce, as will appear from the fact that the budget is presented in Parliament on the very last day of the Parliamentary Session. Are the British Ministers, who are in charge of the budget, afraid of presenting it before a full house, lest they should by doing so awaken in the mind of the British public an interest in Indian questions? Mr. Bradlaugh has said that he will, in future, protest against the present practice of presenting the budget at the close of the Parliamentary Session. But it is certain that the intensely selfish character of the British public will make all his protests useless. India can expect nothing at the hands of Parliament. Mr. Gorlie says that a permanent Sub-Committee of the House of Commons should be formed for the discussion of Indian questions. Mr. Gorlie deserves thanks for his proposal, which may possibly do some good, if carried into effect. Such a Sub-Committee may at any rate curb, in some measure, the uncontrolled despotism of the Secretary of State and his Council. But the great point to be borne in mind is that India will never have her wrongs righted until her wants are discussed in her own Legislative Councils.

SAHACHAR.

41. The same paper says that a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the nature of the oppression which indigo-planters are stated to be in the habit of committing in Behar. The Bengal Indigo Commission did much good; and a similar Commission may do much for Behar. The oppression practised by the Indigo-planters of Bengal was put down during the administration of Sir John Peter Grant; and it is to be hoped that the oppression practised by planters of Behar will be put down during the administration of Sir Stuart Bayley. Mr. Stobie was himself an Indigo-planter, and what he has written about the oppression of Indigo-planters in Behar requires therefore to be carefully enquired into by Government, instead of pooh-poohed as being absurd on the very face of it.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

42. The *Samaya*, of the 21st October, says that, with the establishment of British rule in Burmah, drunkenness has largely increased in that country. At Thayet-mayo, where there was formerly only one *tari* shop, no less than three grogshops have now been opened. How then did Sir John Gorst say in Parliament that licenses for selling wine have not been granted in Burmah?

SAMAYA.

43. The same paper praises Mr. Hogg, the present Director-General of the Post Office, for his introduction of the one pice postage on newspapers weighing three tolabs. The object of introducing this low postage is no doubt to give increased circulation to newspapers written by Englishmen. It must be admitted, however, that the whole country has benefited by this measure. Newspaper postage deserves, however, to be made still lower, say, one pice for newspapers weighing 5 tolabs. And there is no reason why this should not be done when it is considered that only a 2 pice postage is levied on articles weighing 10 tolabs. At present, the fear of exceeding the regulation weight of 3 tolabs often leads many editors to use paper of very indifferent quality for their newspapers, and this very paper, the *Samaya*, is an example

in point. If newspaper postage is reduced, Indian journalism is sure to increase in respectability.

44. The same paper complains of the practice of overworking the clerks in the Government offices. Two clerks in the Revenue Department of the Bengal

Clerks in Government offices.

Secretariat have to come to office on Sundays. Were these clerks ordered to attend the office on Sundays by the Lieutenant-Governor or by his Secretaries, or had they to do so at the bidding of some Eurasian superior? Government ought to enquire into the matter. A clerk named Baboo Baishnab Chunder Dutt, employed in the Military Pay Examiner's Office, has recently died of sheer overwork. If clerks are thus overworked in Government offices no man of ability will accept service in the offices of Government, which will thus be a great loser.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

45. It has, according to the same paper, become absolutely necessary that measures should be adopted with a view of preventing in future such accidents as the loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*. The standard of character and qualifications for the Captainship of sea-going vessels should be made as high as possible. Provision should also be made to stop Captains at any time in the course of their voyages.

The loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

SAMAYA.

46. The *Education Gazette*, of the 21st October, in protesting against the submission of the Indian budget in Parliament at the close of the Parliamentary Session, remarks that, considering that all India looks up to England for the redress of her grievances, the slightest neglect shown in Parliament in relation to Indian questions may produce consequences of a serious nature. As for the presentation of the budget in Parliament late in the Session, the authorities who are directly responsible for the government of India may easily change the practice. Sir John Gorst stated during the discussion on the budget that in India the burden of taxation was lighter than in England, inasmuch as people in India paid taxes at the rate of two shillings per head, whereas in England the rate of taxation was fifty shillings per head. But considering the pecuniary condition of India, even two shillings per head is a rate more heavy than she can bear. There can besides be no comparison of the two countries in point of wealth. In India the average annual earning per head of population is only Rs. 27, whereas in England it is considerably larger.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

The Indian budget in Parliament.

47. A correspondent of the same paper takes exception to the present site of the post-office at Baidyapoor—

EDUCATION GAZETTE.

The post-office at Baidyapoor.

- (1). The post-office is situated in a lonely lane.
- (2). The office-room lacks accommodation.
- (3). The locality is ill-ventilated and unhealthy.

For the convenience of the public the office should be removed to the elevated ground on the margin of the tank called the *Dakshinmata*. It is hoped that the Postal Inspector of Burdwan will take the matter into consideration.

48. A correspondent of the same paper protests against the proposed removal of the office of the Sub-Deputy Collector of the Doro Khas Mehal in Midnapore from Debhog to Kukurahati. The

EDUCATION GAZETTE.

The Sub-Deputy Collector's office at Debhog in the Doro Khas Mehal.

temporary removal of the office to the Natpatia school-room has resulted in much inconvenience to the people. The objection to Kukurahati is that no respectable people live within one mile of the place, and that it is occasionally submerged during the rainy season, and has no habitations

for respectable people. The office was once before removed to Kukurahati when the late Collector, Mr. Wilson, found the place unsuitable, and he therefore brought the office back to Debhog.

SULABHA SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

49. The *Salabha Samāchār and Kushdaha*, of the 21st October, says that the appointment of native civilians as District Judges and Magistrates gives universal satisfaction. Wherever men like Messrs. Behary Lal Gupta, Ramesh Chandra Dutt, Krishna Govind Gupta, Brajendra Kumar Dey, and others have been invested with district powers, the whole population have been simply charmed by their able and efficient discharge of their duties and by their kind and gentle manners.

URDU GUIDE,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

50. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 21st October, says that the activity shown by the Nizam in his own management of his affairs during the absence of his Minister in England forms a striking contrast to the dilatory manner in which public business is managed here under the English Government.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

51. The *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, says that the people of the district of Shahabad having presented a petition to Sir Steuart Bayley stating that much oppression is practised in connection with the supply of canal water in that district, His Honour has appointed a Commission to investigate the subject. The appointment of this Commission is approved. The present Lieutenant-Governor, it is also stated, never lets any case of grievance, supposed or real, to pass unnoticed or uninvestigated. And it is therefore desirable that people should never go up to him with a grievance unless there is very good and valid reason for doing so.

SANJIVANI.

52. The same paper says that their Excellencies the Governors of Madras and Bombay, who are men of note in England, spent 30 and 17 thousand rupees, respectively, in their annual tours during the year 1885-86. But the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir Rivers Thompson, who was a very ordinary man before he was given a seat in the Viceregal Council, spent 85 thousand rupees on his tours during the same year. The Bengal tour expenditure is sure to decrease during the administration of Sir Steuart Bayley.

SANJIVANI.

53. The same paper says that the defects of the British administration in India are not removed chiefly because the heads of Government are not sufficiently alive to the duty and necessity of requiring a high standard of morality in its servants. It is the duty of all Governments to keep a sharp eye upon its officers, and to dismiss the officer against whom some grave moral failing, either in private or in public life, is proved. But the Government of this country is not very attentive to this part of its duty, and the result is occasional miscarriage of justice. The Magistrate, for instance, who is himself known to be an adulterous man, cannot be expected to do strict justice in cases of adultery; his own nature will naturally incline him towards adulterers. There are, at the present moment, many civilians who have been proved guilty of adultery, but their services have not been dispensed with by Government. This moral laxity in the administration has been the cause of the deterioration of even the subordinate ranks of the Government service. A few years ago the Accountant of the Chittagong Collectorate was charged with seducing another man's wife. The local Magistrate took up the cause of the accused, and the offender escaped unpunished. But a few days after it was discovered that the man had run away with a considerable sum of Government money. Thus, the Government has suffered pecuniary loss simply because no eye was kept upon the private character of the

Morality of Government officers.

Accountant. If the Magistrate had made private enquiries into the character of the man when the charge of seduction was brought against him, Government would not in all probability have lost so much money. Thus, the principle ordinarily acted upon by Government in relation to its officers, that it has a right to look only to their public character and not to their conduct in private life, is thoroughly wrong and productive of grave administrative mischief.

54. The same paper says that, in consequence of the establishment of outstills at Uluberia, in Howrah, there was this year at that place a larger gathering of people than in previous years on the last day of the celebration of the Durga Puja festival. No less than 500 persons were drunk at the outstill on that day and behaved in the most indecent and disorderly manner on the public road, accompanied, in many cases, by prostitutes.

SANJIVANI.

55. Referring to the debate on the Indian budget in Parliament, the *Bangabási*, of the 22nd October, says that the Indians are poor, and have to pay an annual tax of Rs. 3 per head. But, (1), according to Sir John Gorst's calculation, the incidence of taxation is Re. 1 per head; while Englishmen have to pay Rs. 20 per head. Even if this estimate is accepted, there can be no denying that Englishmen are far richer than the Indians. The average annual income of an Indian is said to be Rs. 20, while that of an Englishman is Rs. 300. So, after paying the taxes, the Indian has Rs. 17, or, according to Sir John Gorst, Rs. 19, left for himself, whilst the Englishman has Rs. 280. And yet there are those that say that Indians are not poor!

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

(2). Sir Richard Temple, a slave of the Conservative party, says that, if the income of the people of India is small, their wants are also few and their requirements are moderate. But it may be pointed out to him that, whereas the monthly income of an Englishman is Rs. 24 or Rs. 25, that of an Indian is only Re. 1-8, and that this pittance of Re. 1-8 must be insufficient to provide a full meal to a man for one month, however simple that meal may be. Increased wages again have failed to bring the desired relief to the poor in India. For the rise in wages has been more than counterbalanced by the rise in the price of articles of food.

(3). Sir Richard Temple sees nothing in the financial condition of India that is calculated to cause anxiety. Why then has the public debt increased by 55 crores in 15 years? In 1873 the public debt of India was 105 crores; this year it is 160 crores; why has it been found necessary to raise loans every time for constructing railways and canals? The public debt is diminishing in every other country; in India alone it is increasing.

(4). The credit of the Government of India is no measure of its solvency. The Government of India would have possessed little credit if it had only its own financial resources to point to. The credit of the Government of India is really based upon the boundless credit of England.

(5). If India had been England, then the manner in which things are managed here would have created quite a disturbance, and the position of Sir John Gorst and Sir Richard Temple would have been rendered very critical indeed. It is easy for others to extol the prosperity of India. But those alone whose fate is mixed up with that of India can realise the difficulties of her position. India has no other alternative than to weep.

56. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 23rd October, referring to the recent engagement between the Prince Bengyan and the English in the district of Chindwin, to the troubles in the district of Mandalay, and to the excesses committed by the Burmese elsewhere, says that peace is yet very

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 23rd, 1887.

Troubles in Burmah.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 23rd, 1887.

far from being established in Burmah, and that peace will not be established in that country simply by saying that it *has been* established.

The Indian budget in Parliament.

57. The same paper thus comments on the discussion of the Indian budget in Parliament:—

- (1.) Mr. Reid's proposal for a Parliamentary Sub-Committee is a good one. But a Sub-Committee, even if established, will be of little use to India.
- (2.) None of Mr. Gorlie's proposals has any chance of being carried into effect.
- (3.) Sir Richard Temple said that, in spite of the expenditure of 20 crores of rupees in fifteen years on famine relief work, there has been an annual accumulation of surplus in the Government exchequer. That a large sum of money has been spent in constructing railway lines for the purpose of prevention of famine is true. But it is not true that there has been a surplus every year in the Government treasury. If there had been a surplus every year, it would not have been necessary for the Government to borrow money. Sir Richard is a time-serving man—a Liberal under Lord Northbrook, a Tory under Lord Lytton. The utterances of such a man are absolutely worthless.
- (4.) Sir George Campbell's speech was a crushing reply to Sir Richard.
- (5.) "But alas! while these topics of supreme importance to India were being discussed, the spacious hall of the House of Commons was empty! There were empty benches under empty vaults! And on those empty benches were seated nineteen members on the ministerial side and ten against them. And yet people entertain the hope that Indian grievances will be redressed by Parliament! Fie on our fate and fie on our hopes!"

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

58. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 24th October,

Sir Charles Turner on the appointment of natives in the Public Service.

approves of Sir Charles Turner's views regarding the appointment of natives in the public service, and says that it is a good idea that the section of the community which has a natural aptitude for any particular branch of the public service should be principally recruited from for making appointments to that branch of the service. But it is also necessary that if a person belonging to any other section of the community is found to possess an equal aptitude for that branch of the service, that he should be appointed to it. The Hindus, as a rule, are specially fit for the Judicial Service. Hindus should therefore be principally appointed to that service. But if an Englishman or a Muhammadan is found equally fit for that service, he must have equal rights with Hindus to be appointed to it. In the same way, Englishmen have a special fitness for the Executive Service, so let Englishmen, as a rule, be appointed to that service. But a Hindu, possessing as much executive ability as an Englishman, must be equally entitled to appointment in that service. Sir Charles Turner, however, makes a serious mistake in thinking that a native ought to go to England in order that he may acquire those qualifications which ought to be possessed by a Magistrate or a Commissioner. No Indian ever went to England during the Mussulman rule, and yet there were able Indian Governors of soubahs and provinces under the Moghul Emperors. And even now, under the English rule, it is the natives who raelly conduct the affairs of important departments of the public service

in the Native States. Government should have given Baboo Nanda Krishna Basu a Magistrateship instead of a Judgeship in order to see whether a native who has not been to England cannot make a good district officer. If a Deputy Magistrate can manage a sub-division, why should he not be able to manage a district? It was formerly thought that the duties of an Inspector of Schools could be discharged by Englishmen only. But it has been now very clearly proved that, as Inspectors of Schools, natives do even better than Englishmen. And what authority is there for assuming that the experiences of one department will be belied in another?

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

59. The *Dhumketu*, of the 14th October, says that Government should not accept the Nizam's money whether it is given away as a loan or as a gift. For, if it is given as a loan, Government will not be justified in making such a heavy loan, and if it is given as a gift, Government will lose prestige by accepting it.

DHUMKETU,
Oct. 14th, 1887.

60. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 17th October, thinks that the money offered by the Nizam, which appears to have been accepted, should be utilized in training the troops of the native princes with a view to their employment against foreign enemies in time of need.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Oct. 17th, 1887.

61. The *Samaya*, of the 21st October, says that the present quarrel between the Maharajah Holkar and his mother coming, as it does, close upon the Maharajah's return from England in a somewhat suspicious style, is rather ominous. Is the British Resident or the Government of India at the bottom of the quarrel? The Government of India, it is rumoured, contemplates taking away certain powers from the Maharajah. What is the meaning of all this? The Maharajah's behaviour in England, if that has anything to do with the present attitude of the Government of India towards him, was not absolutely unjustifiable. He taught the British people the lesson that Indian Princes should not be neglected or treated with discourtesy. It is to be hoped, however, that His Highness will suffer no injustice at the hands of Lord Dufferin; for Lord Dufferin is a man who, it is certain, will not fail to uphold the prestige of his own name by avoiding injustice.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

62. The same paper thinks that the Nizam's splendid offer of money to the Government of India may not have proceeded from his loyalty to that Government. How, indeed, can the Nizam love the Government which has unjustly deprived him of the Berars? The offer may mean that His Highness is only anxious to stand well with the British Government, or it may be only a clever stroke of business on the part of Colonel Marshall. The Colonel knows well that the offer will be refused, but his master, the Nizam, will gain the credit of having made it, and will therefore take him into greater favour. The Government of India should not accept this offer. The other native princes will be placed in a delicate and difficult position if this offer is accepted. The acceptance of this offer will also destroy the prestige of the Government of India by making it appear that it is unable to defend itself against external enemies without taking assistance from others. Instead of taking pecuniary aid from its allies, the Government of India should set about placing the armies of native princes on an efficient footing; for it is only by doing this that it can avoid much expenditure of money and at the same time strengthen its military resources.

SAMAYA.

63. The *Som Prakash*, of the 24th October, says that it is believed by many that Colonel Marshall is the prime mover in the donation affair. The Colonel

SOM PRABASH,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

now reigns supreme in Hyderabad. It is clear that the Nizam's State will not fare well if the Colonel remains Private Secretary to His Highness.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1887.

64. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 27th October, has heard it rumoured that Nabob Sir Salar Jung, the late Minister of the Hyderabad State, has been forbidden by the Nizam to enter his territories. The Nabob is now at Bombay, and he will have to leave India again if the rumour be true. This affair of the Nabob is really a mysterious one. Sir Salar Jung has rendered eminent services to the Hyderabad State, and he has been therefore rewarded by the Nizam. Why, then, should he not be allowed to come to his own country? Some people say that Englishmen are at the bottom of all this. The presence of Sir Salar Jung in the Hyderabad State is not, it is stated, convenient to English interests there. English interests in Hyderabad require that not only Colonel Marshall should be Private Secretary to the Nizam, but that Sir Salar Jung also should not be in Hyderabad. It is only upon these conditions that English ascendancy can be supreme in the Hyderabad State. The Nizam's offer of 60 lakhs to the Government of India in the present unsatisfactory condition of his own finances has given rise to these rumours.

Sir Salar Jung and the English in Hyderabad.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

65. The *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, has been asked by several respectable people of the village Dalui Bazar within the jurisdiction of Memari, in the district of Burdwan, to bring to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor that, unless the ryots of that village are allowed to use the water of the rivers Gang and Banki, for the purpose of irrigating their fields, scarcity of food will be felt by no less than about a hundred agricultural families. The ryots of that village had hitherto enjoyed the right of using the water of the rivers free of charge, but this year the Collector has ordered them to pay for the water; and hence this distress.

Scarcity of water for the purposes of irrigation at Dalui Bazar.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

DHUMKETU,
Oct. 14th, 1887.

66. The *Dhumketu*, of the 14th October, thus addresses the goddess Durga on the occasion of her departure from her worshippers on earth—

“To whose care dost thou, Mother! leave us? Thou canst not say that thou hast left us in the care of the King, for, Mother! there is now no King in the country. For he cannot be called King who takes out of the mouths of his poor subjects their scanty morsels of food and who utters not a word when he sees the chaste wives of his subjects ravished and disgraced. Is he a King who forcibly pours the poison of spirituous liquor down the throats of his subjects? Does he deserve the title of a King? O Mother! dost thou feel no pain or pity in leaving us in the charge of such a King?”

DHUMKETU.

67. The same paper says that the learned Professor Max Müller, who is supposed to be well conversant with the Hindu Sastras and the manners and customs of Hindus, has at last found a fit coadjutor in the equally learned Pundit Rama Bae. Their project for an asylum for Hindu widows is insanity, pure and simple.

Professor Max Müller and an asylum for Hindu widows.

PRATIKAR,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

68. Referring to the death at nearly the same time of Wajid Ali Shah and Dibya Singh, the ex-Rajah of Puri, the *Pratikar*, of the 21st October, says that it would seem as though a Commission has

The late Wajid Ali Shah and Dibya Singh.

commenced to sit in the Court of Yama to enquire into the nature and effects of English rule in India, and that the two captive princes named above have been summoned to give evidence before it. Yama himself is the President of the Commission. If the Commission desires to examine more witnesses, Theebaw, and Ayub Khan and Yakub Khan, and Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, may be named for its examination.

69. The *Samaya*, of the 21st October, fully supports the arguments used in the memorial which the Hindu community of Bombay has addressed to Lord Dufferin, asking him to pass a law prohibiting the slaughter of cows and she-buffaloes.

SAMAYA,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

70. The *Education Gazette*, of the 21st October, referring to the riots now being committed by the unemployed in London, says that, though famine is of frequent occurrence in this country, the great mass of the people never think of committing such excesses. And Indian people are none of them civilized. So from these uncivilized people of India the rioters in England may learn patience in suffering, forbearance, and good manners.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

71. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 21st October, thinks that it is in the highest degree necessary that the coming National Congress should direct its attention to the following subjects:—

PRAJA BANDHU,
Oct. 21st, 1887.

(1.) *The condition of the clerks in Government offices.*—A considerable portion of the educated population of India work as clerks, and it is clear that a great deal of the progress and prosperity of the country will depend upon the status and well-being of the clerks as a class. But clerks are generally very poorly paid and are overworked. The Congress should agitate this subject.

(2.) *The state of education in India.*—The portion of the Indian population that is receiving education is almost nil. Steps should therefore be taken to diffuse education throughout India, and Government should be asked to pass a law compelling parents to send their children to school and authorising the establishment of free schools for every three or four villages with money raised by public subscription. As taxation has reached its maximum limit in India, the salaries of highly-paid civilians should be cut down in order to provide money for the increased expenditure which will be required for maintaining free schools.

72. The *Sulabh Samáchar* and *Kushdaha*, of the 21st October, complains of the very hard work which has to be done by clerks in Government offices. These clerks are not allowed to enjoy the authorised holidays, and have to work beyond the fixed office hours. The heads of departments do not show even that little consideration to these poor clerks which is shown to labourers in mills and factories. Baboo Boishnab Charan Dutt, a clerk in the Military Pay Examiner's Office, has recently fallen a victim to overwork. He has sacrificed his life in the discharge of his official duties, but it is alleged that his pay for the holidays has been disallowed. An Association, with some such name as the Clerks Defence Association, and working steadily with the view of defending the rights and interests of the clerks in the Government offices, has become a necessity, and it is hoped that such an Association will be established.

SULABHA SAMACHAR
& KUSADAH.
Oct. 21st, 1887.

SANJIVANI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

73. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 22nd October, who had travelled to Chandbali in a steamer during the Puja vacation, gives the following description of the oppression to which passengers on board the steamers were subjected during the journey :—

Oppression of passengers on board steamers.

- (1). Some people had, by mistake, purchased the tickets of a different steamer. Formerly, in such cases, the fares of such passengers were realised from the managers of the other steamers. It is not known whether that practice still exists. But on the present occasion, these people were made to part with everything they had. What little money they had with them was in a manner forcibly taken from them.
- (2). Some persons holding regular tickets had small bundles of cloth, &c., which were forcibly taken away from them by the steamer people who wanted to extort money from them. It was found on enquiry that these steamer people had no right to levy blackmail in this way. For some other passengers were allowed to carry their baggage without paying extra fare. So it appeared that the clerk of the steamer, together with some inferior officers, was in the habit of secretly levying blackmail on poor and ignorant passengers.
- (3). When the steamer reached Chandbali, the police came to count the passengers. But this counting business was a mere farce.
- (4). When the time for leaving the steamer came, the clerk of the steamer and the khalasis stood upon the landing board in such a way as necessarily subjected the female passengers to all sorts of indignities. The officers of the steamer had nothing to say to this, for it was found that they regard the native passengers in the light of so many animals. Indeed, when the native passengers began to come down, one missionary gentleman was heard to say "see the animals are coming out."
- (5.) It is desirable that the Government should secretly depute some one to enquire into these acts of oppression and then take steps to put them down.

SANJIVANI.

74. A correspondent of the same paper complains of scarcity of water in the village of Kabarikola, in the district of Pubna. The village has three tanks and the water of all three is utterly unsuitable for drinking purposes. Mr. Clay, the Magistrate of Pubna, visited the place, and promised to supply the village with good drinking water. The promise, however, is still unredeemed. If the tanks of the village are allowed to remain neglected for a few years more, the village will be ruined.

75. The same paper supports a memorial addressed to the Government of India by a Parsi gentleman of Bombay asking it to pass a law prohibiting the slaughter of cows and she-buffaloes, and thinks that every community, Hindu, Mahomedan and Christian, is equally interested in the prohibition of the slaughter of cows.

76. The *Bangabasi*, of the 22nd October, says that there are atheists in every society, but society in general does not listen to them. No one cared for the opinion of John Stuart Mill that a marriage contract should run for

The slaughter of cows and she-buffaloes.

The marriage question.

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

five years only. Christians and Parsees have therefore no right to be heard on the question of Hindu marriage. What Bramhos say on the same subject should be also disdainfully rejected. Roghu Nath Row, the Dewan of Indore, though a Hindu by profession, is not a Hindu at heart, and the Government should turn a deaf ear to the counsels and opinions of such perverts and disbelievers like him. Lord Reay has acquitted himself exceedingly well in other matters, but has sadly disappointed public expectations in connection with this marriage question. Lord Dufferin is a far-seeing statesman, and it is hoped that he will form or express no opinion offhand. In considering the question of Hindu marriage the opinions of Hindus alone should be accepted. All wise and experienced Hindus are opposed to the introduction of divorce into Hindu marriage relations. The opinion expressed on this subject by Sir T. Madhav Rao, the late Dewan of Baroda, who is highly esteemed for his able statesmanship, ripe scholarship, and shrewd experience, reflects the view of the Hindu community in general, and Government should attach due weight to the words of leading Hindus like him.

77. A correspondent of the same paper says that numerous complaints are being made against Baboo Gyanendra Lal Roy, the newly-appointed Manager of the Nuddea Raj Estate.

The Manager of the Nuddea Raj Estate.

Baboo is very unpopular with the people of Krishnagore. It is said that he is not on good terms with the guardian of the young Maharajah. But Gyanendra Baboo ought to bear in mind that he owes his appointment to the "Roy Bahadur."

BANGABASI,
Oct. 22nd, 1887.

78. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 23rd October, says that such excesses as are now being committed by the unemployed in England are of frequent occurrence in that country. But no one blames them for committing such excesses, simply because there is no means of putting them down. But here in India, if any native newspaper points out the faults of Government officers, a charge of disloyalty is at once laid at its door, and proposals are made for depriving the native press of its liberty. Such is English impartiality!

The demonstrations of the unemployed in England.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 23rd, 1887.

79. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 24th October, says that the Government should slightly increase the allowances granted by the late Nawab Wajid Ali Shah to his children by his *motah* wives. The position of the chief Begums should not be lowered. The Government will do a gracious act, and at the same time incur no great expense, if it perpetuates the memory of Wajid Ali Shah by maintaining his favourite menagerie. So the advertisement for the sale of the menagerie so soon after the ex-King's death looks extremely clumsy.

The late Nawab Wajid Ali Shah.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

80. The same paper, referring to the statement of Captain Neustein, former Captain of the *Sir John Lawrence*, in the *Reis and Raiyat* newspaper, to the effect that all the twelve witnesses cited by him for testifying to the worn-out condition of the steamer were not examined, and that those who were examined were provided with appointments beforehand and received some money afterwards, says that these statements are really of a very serious nature. But who will take notice of them? The public are in doubt as to whether the *Sir John Lawrence* was lost through the rashness of its Captain, or in consequence of its own rotten condition. And the Court of Enquiry has failed to clear up these doubts.

The loss of the *Sir John Lawrence*.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI.

81. The *Som Prakash*, of the 24th October, attributes the contemplated termination of Sir Lepel Griffin's Indian career to the articles which have appeared against

Another victory of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*.

SOM PRAKASH,
Oct. 24th, 1887.

him in the *Amrita Bazar Patriká*. So the *Amrita Bazar* has achieved another signal victory.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Oct. 27th, 1887.

82. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 27th October, has a paragraph on the article in the *Antiquary* in which Mr. Grierson, c.s., has quoted a Sanskrit *sloka*, very current in Behar, to show that Bengalis are not liked by the Beharis. Now this is not the first time that such a statement has been made by an English official. Such statements are often made by English officers in pursuance of the present Government policy of setting class against class and province against province in India. It is unnecessary to explain the meaning of the Sanskrit *slokas* made use of by Mr. Grierson; it is only necessary to bear in mind that statements like Mr. Grierson's are made from political motives. The fundamental principle of British administration in India is to sow the seeds of disunion among the inhabitants of different provinces of India. Mr. Grierson has done what he should do to further that principle. There is nothing new in the article. The people should bear in mind that only political motive has led Mr. Grierson to write in this strain.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 29th October 1887.